

Remarks

I. Status of the Claims

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 12 and 14-22 are pending in the application, with claims 12 and 22 being the independent claims. Claims 1-11 and 13 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. New claims 15-22 are sought to be added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

II. Support for Amended and New Claims

Support for the amended and new claims can be found throughout the specification. Support for amended claim 12 and new claim 22 can be found in the specification at paragraphs 28, 29 and 32. Support for new claims 15 and 18 can be found in the specification at paragraph 25, and in original claims 2 and 7, respectively. Support for new claims 16 and 17 can be found in the specification at paragraph 28 and in original claims 5 and 6, respectively. Support for new claims 19 and 20 can be found in the specification at paragraph 30 and in original claims 9 and 10, respectively. Support for new claim 21 can be found in the specification at paragraph 31 and in original claim 11.

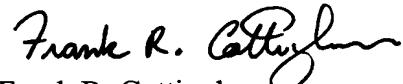
SOLDATI
Appl. No. *To be assigned*
(Divisional of 09/863,768; Filed May 24, 2001)

Conclusion

It is believed that the present application is now in condition for immediate examination. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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